## Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /011 R

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DRAFTED BY: NEA/IAI:WTCLUVERIUS:DF APPROVED BY: NEA/IAI-HHSTACKHOUSE

NEA-JCRAIG S/S-O:KKURZE

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R 252320Z JAN 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

SECRETSTATE 017453

**EXDIS** 

FOLLOWING REPEAT GENEVA 434 ACTION SECSTATE INFO AMMAN BEIRUT CAIRO TEL AVIV USUN 24 JAN

QUOTE

SECRETGNEVA 0434

EXDIS

FROM MEPC DEL

E.O.11652 GDS TAGS PFOR XF JO

SUBJ JORDANIAN SUSPENDED ANIMATION AT GENEVA

1. JORDANIAN AMBASSADOR ZREIKAT RECEIVED ME WARMLY DURING MY
JANUARY 24 COURTESY CALL. IN COURSE OF CONVEYING SOME OF MY
IMPRESSIONS FROM SECRETARY'S RECENT TRIP TO AREA, I SAID I UNDERSTOOD EGYPTIANS AND ISRAELIS WANTED TO SEE HOW DISENGAGEMENT
WOULD WORK OUT AND ALSO TO GET NEGOTIATIONS ON SYRIAN DISENGAGEMENT
UNDER WAY BEFORE MOVING ON TO NEXT PHASE OF GENEVA CONFERENCE.
WHEN ZREIKAT ASKED ME IF IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE TO START DISCUSSION
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AT GENEVA OF SOME OF THE POLITICAL ISSUES PARALLEL WITH SYRIAN-ISRAELI DISENGAGEMENT NEGOTIATIONS AND BEFORE EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI DISENGAGEMENT WAS COMPLETED, I SAID MY PERSONAL VIEW WAS THIS WOULD NOT BE PRACTICAL. ZREIKAT, WHO SEEMED DISAPPOINTED, SAID

HE APPRECIATED HAVING MY OPINION ON SUBJECT FOR PRACTICAL AS WELL AS PROFESSIONAL REASONS, SINCE AMONG OTHER THINGS HE HAD BEEN HOLDING THREE FLOORS OF A GENEVA HOTEL EVER SINCE DECEMBER 15

- 2. ZREIKAT SAID THAT DESPITE SADAT'S CURRENT SWING THROUGH ARAB CAPITALS TO EXPLAIN HIS DECISION TO CONCLUDE DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT, ZREIKAT WAS WORRIED ABOUT EGYPT'S RELATIVE ISOLATION IN ARAB WORLD EVER SINCE SIGNING OF SIX-POINT CEASEFIRE STABILI-ZATION AGREEMENT IN NOVEMBER. IN ZREIKAT'S OPINION, SADAT WAS NOT AS STRONG INSIDE EGYPT AS IT APPEARED, AND EXTREMIST PRESSURES ON HIM FROM BOTH INSIDE AND OUTSIDE EGYPT COULD EVENTUALLY PRODUCE NEGATIVE SHIFTS IN EGYPT'S POSTURE CONCERNING MIDDLE EAST SETTLEMENT. JORDAN HAD APPARENTLY GOTTEN SOME FALLOUT FROM THIS SITUATION. ZREIKAT SAID THAT ALTHOUGH EGYPTIAN AND JORDANIAN DELEGATIONS WERE HOUSED IN THE SAME GENEVA HOTEL DURING OPENING OF PEACE CONFERENCE, THERE HAD BEEN NO CONTACT AT ALL. ZREIKAT RELATED THIS TO FACT THAT EGYPTIANS AT THAT POINT (PRESUMABLY WITH IMPROVEMENT OF THEIR INTER-ARAB POSTURE IN MIND) WERE TALKING UP NOTION OF CREATION OF A PALESTINIAN GOVERNMENT IN EXILE.
- 3. ZREIKAT'S MAIN POINT TO ME WAS THAT IF ANY TIME WERE ALLOWED TO LAPSE FOLLOWING EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI DISENGAGEMENT AND BEFORE GENEVA CONFERENCE MOVED INTO POLITICAL PHASE, THIS WOULD IN HIS VIEW BE DANGEROUS. HE BELIEVED THAT NOT ONLY WOULD MOMENTUM BE LOST, BUT ARAB EXTREMISTS COULD EXPLOIT SITUATION, EMBARRASSING EGYPTIANS AND CAUSING POSITIONS TO HARDEN.BASSIN UNQUOTE KISSINGER

**SECRET** 

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## Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z Capture Date: 27 JUL 1999 Channel Indicators: n/a

**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, POLITICAL SITUATION

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 25 JAN 1974 Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE017453

Document Number: 1974STATE017453
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: NEA/IAI:WTCLUVERIUS:DF

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: 11652 GDS Errors: n/a Film Number: P750004-0644

From: STATE

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740175/abbrzbxc.tel

Line Count: 85

Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM

Office: ORIGIN SS

**Original Classification: SECRET** Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET **Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS** Reference: n/a Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Authority: garlanwa

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 18 JUN 2002

**Review Event:** 

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <18 JUN 2002 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <26 NOV 2002 by garlanwa>

**Review Markings:** 

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:** Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: SUBJ JORDANIAN SUSPENDED ANIMATION AT GENEVA

TAGS: PFOR, XF, JO To: JERUSALEM

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005